

**Hampden Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes  
for  
May 29, 2007**

Present: Ed Steltzer, Bob Osborne, Mark McCollough, Phil Rapp, and Wally Jakubas. Guest: Jim Gilbert representing Cove Brook Watershed Association

**Item 1: Approval of Minutes**

Minutes were not available from last month's meeting. Their approval was tabled until the next meeting.

**Item 2: Baker Brook Zoning**

Jim Gilbert recommended zoning for Baker Brook and 4 or 5 of its major tributaries. Baker Brook provides an important water source for Cove Brook. Although Cove Brook has Atlantic salmon in it, Baker Brook does not. However, it does have a population of brook trout.

Jim Gilbert will draft a letter with 25 important facts about Baker Brook.

**Item 3: Stream Clean-up**

Bob Osborne encouraged Commission members to attend a river clean-up next Saturday. Participants will meet at the Hampden Marina at 8 AM.

**Item 4: Signage for Hampden Open Space**

Mark took his drawings for a Hampden Open Space sign to Caron's Signs to find out what they would charge to make the signs. Caron's Signs would charge the town \$25 each for making an 8½" x 8½" aluminum signs, if a minimum of 100 were ordered. The smaller ATV signs i.e., "No ATVs in Wetlands" would be \$7.22 each. The Commission agreed that the cost for these signs seemed excessive and was interested in exploring alternatives. Mark said he would investigate the cost of plastic signs, similar to the ones used by Maine's Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

**Item 5: Conservation Award**

The Town Council will take up the proposal that we submitted concerning criteria for the Conservation Award at next Monday's meeting.

**Item 6: Moto-cross & Gravel Pits**

Bob informed the Commission about a proposal that certain played-out gravel pits be opened to motocross sports. This proposal should go on the next HCC agenda. Initial reaction to this proposal was very negative from the HCC members that were present because of the noise associated with motocross activities.

**Item 7: New Subdivisions**

The Bailey Subdivision was approved with the HCC recommendation for open space placement.

The Penobscot Indians are considering building multi-family housing units near the corner of Mayo Road and Western.

**Item 8: Gravel Pits**

The Town Council will soon be reviewing new draft ordinances regarding the operation of extraction pits.